United Nations ST/IC/2008/3

Secretariat

3 January 2008

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Management

Subject: **First day of issue — 27 January 2008: "Remembrance and Beyond" stamps and first day of issue — 28 January 2008: Vienna definitives**

Commemorative stamps

1. On 27 January 2008, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of three commemorative stamps in a mini-sheet format of nine stamps on the theme "Remembrance and Beyond". The stamps were designed by Matias Delfino, a staff member of the Graphic Design Unit of the Department of Public Information. The inspiration for the design of the stamps was to merge a symbol of atrocity and one of hope. The transformation from barbed wire to intertwined roses depicts a commitment to the future and conveys a message of remembrance.

2. On 1 November 2005, the General Assembly adopted resolution 60/7 designating 27 January as an annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. The Holocaust and the United Nations outreach programme was created at the request of the General Assembly in its resolution 60/7. It seeks to mobilize civil society for Holocaust education and remembrance to remind the world of the lessons to be learned from the Holocaust in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is committed to continuing to preserve the memory and lessons learned from the Holocaust.

* Expiration date of the present information circular: 28 February 2008.

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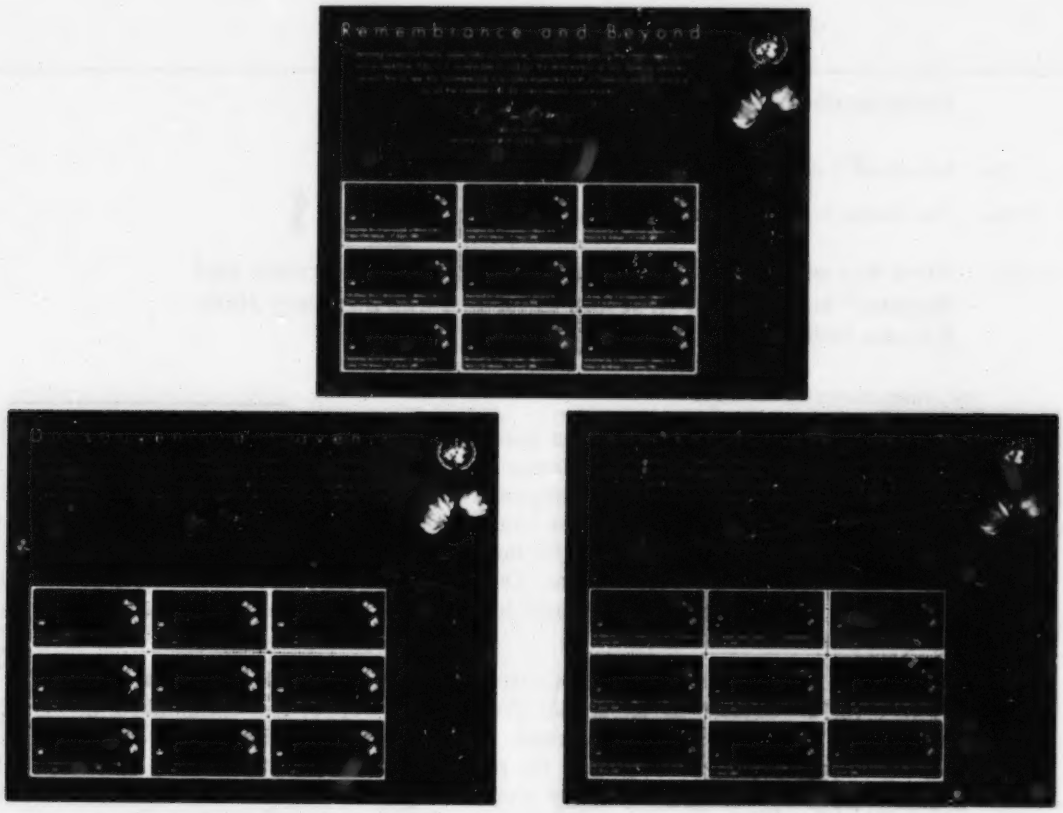
3. The stamps will be issued in the denominations of $0.41, SwF 0.85 and €0.65. The top portion of the stamp sheet bears a statement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

(United States equivalents: SwF 0.85: $0.76 and €0.65: $0.96 subject to exchange rate fluctuation)



Special United Nations/Israel Post Joint Issue Silk First Day Cover

4. To commemorate the joint stamp issue of "Remembrance and Beyond", UNPA has produced a limited edition silk first day cover. The three stamps issued by UNPA and the one stamp issued by Israel Post are affixed to the cover and cancelled, as appropriate from the three UNPA offices and Israel Post.

Vienna definitives

5. On 28 January 2008, UNPA will issue four new Vienna definitive stamps in the denominations of €0.10, €0.15, €0.65 and €1.40. The €0.10 stamp is a photograph of the Johann Strauss Memorial in Vienna and is credited to Rudy Sulgan/Corbis. The €0.15 stamp is a photograph of the Pallas Athene Fountain by Carl Kundmann and is credited to Atlantide Phototravel/Corbis. The €0.65 stamp is a photograph of the Pegasus Fountain in Salzburg and is credited to Walter Geiersperger/Corbis. The €1.40 stamp is a photograph of a statue in Gardens of Belvedere Palace in Vienna and is credited to Rudy Sulgan/Corbis. The photographs were adapted as stamps by Rorie Katz (United Nations).

(United States equivalents: €0.10: $0.15, €0.15: $0.22, €0.65: $0.96 and €1.40: $2.06, subject to exchange rate fluctuation)

General information

6. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first day covers on the UNPA official first day cachets **only**. Members of delegations and the staff can obtain these items on Monday, 28 January 2008, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) A temporary sales counter on the east side of the Secretariat lobby, in front of the windows, between the cafeteria and the newsstand: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

7. First-day-of-issue cancellations can be obtained at a temporary United States Postal Service substation located outside the United Nations Bookshop in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

8. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://unstamps.un.org.